

ITW



PATENT  
Att'y Dkt.: 2207/12173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SOLOMON et al

Serial No.: 09/961,202

Filed: September 24, 2001

For: FILTERING BASIC INSTRUCTION  
SEGMENTS IN A PROCESSOR FRONT-  
END FOR POWER CONSERVATION

Examiner: Z.H. Li

Confirmation No. 6536

Art Unit: 2186

Assignee: Intel Corporation

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respond to the outstanding restriction requirement mailed September 8, 2004, as follows:

**REMARKS**

The application contains claims 1-25. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group III, containing claims 11-25. The election is made with traverse -- Groups II and III should be examined together.

Restriction is proper only if examination of all pending claims poses an undue burden upon the Examiner. See, MPEP § 803.01 (Examiner **must** examine entire application if it can be made without serious burden). No such burden would exist in this case if claims 5-25 (Groups II and III) are examined together.

The claims of groups II and III recite elements that are very similar to each other. In group II, claim 5 recites counting a number of accesses to a cache line and determining if the count meets a predetermined threshold. Claim 11 from group III recites a count field, a threshold comparator and an incrementor. Returning to group II, claim 10 recites identifying an age of cache lines and reducing the count value of cache lines based on the age. Claim 15